

**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**February 16, 2010**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**House**  
**COMITTEE ON ENERGY AND**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Mark Duda**  
**President**

**HR 26 / HCR 67**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Morita, Vice Chair Coffman, and Members of the Committee:

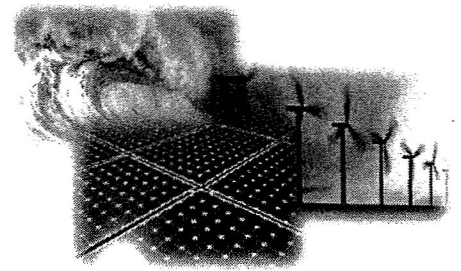
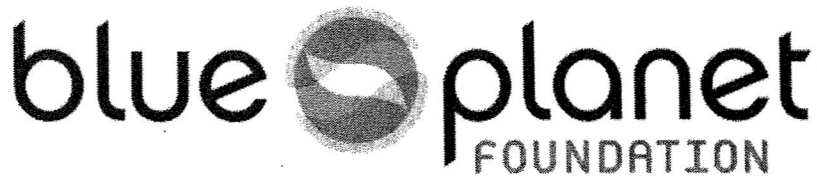
The Hawaii Solar Energy Association supports House Resolution 26, a measure urging the United States Congress to pass legislation that promotes clean energy jobs and innovative energy development on a national level. HSEA's member companies have benefited from timely and well-crafted legislation passed by both the state and federal governments and therefore know firsthand the importance that appropriate policymaking can have on job creation and economic development. Applying clean energy policy at a national level is the right thing to do to address climate change, improve energy security, and strengthen the economy. Legislation providing a national framework for clean energy is an important step in the right direction.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mark Duda  
President, Hawaii Solar Energy Association

**About Hawaii Solar Energy Association**

*Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) is comprised of installers, distributors, manufacturers and financiers of solar energy systems, both hot water and PV, most of which are Hawaii based, owned and operated. Our primary goals are: (1) to further solar energy and related arts, sciences and technologies with concern for the ecologic, social and economic fabric of the area; (2) to encourage the widespread utilization of solar equipment as a means of lowering the cost of energy to the American public, to help stabilize our economy, to develop independence from fossil fuel and thereby reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change; (3) to establish, foster and advance the usefulness of the members, and their various products and services related to the economic applications of the conversion of solar energy for various useful purposes; and (4) to cooperate in, and contribute toward, the enhancement of widespread understanding of the various applications of solar energy conversion in order to increase their usefulness to society.*



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

February 16, 2010, 11:00 A.M.

Room 325

**(Testimony is 2 pages long)**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BOTH HR 26 AND HCR 67**

Chair Morita and members of the Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports House Resolution 26 and House Concurrent Resolution 67, resolutions asking Congress to pass comprehensive clean energy legislation. Blue Planet Foundation's mission is to end the use of fossil fuel on Earth, starting by making Hawai'i energy independent. We recognize that we simply cannot achieve this mission without the strong policy support of the United States.

Reigning in climate-changing carbon emissions globally is a matter of survival for Hawai'i and our Polynesian neighbors. Shifting weather patterns, rising sea levels, and stronger storms are predicted to worsen if the "business as usual" emissions trends continue globally.

Policy leadership by the United States on energy and climate issues not only helps America regain its standing in engineering and industry in the energy field, it will spur other countries to commit to critical carbon reduction goals. This commitment was elusive at the Copenhagen Climate Conference last December—largely due to the lack of aggressive U.S. domestic policy on climate change.

The comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation currently before the Senate is perhaps one of the most important pieces of legislation Congress will ever pass. This comprehensive legislation will make meaningful reductions in global warming pollution, spur investment in clean energy technology, create jobs and reduce our reliance on foreign oil. Most importantly, it will help restore America's leadership in the world and begin, at long last, to put in place a truly global solution to the climate crisis.

**Jeff Mikulina, executive director • [jeff@blueplanetfoundation.org](mailto:jeff@blueplanetfoundation.org)**

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Passage of comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation puts the U.S. on course to:

- substantially drop below the business-as-usual carbon emissions path;
- start every major business planning for much deeper reductions;
- spur the cleantech venture and financing community;
- put in place the entire framework for U.S. climate regulations;
- accelerate many tens of gigawatts of different types of low-carbon energy into the marketplace;
- put billions into developing advanced low-carbon technology;
- start building out the smart, green grid of the 21st century;
- training and creating millions of clean energy jobs;
- negotiate a working international climate regime; and
- bring China into the climate negotiation process.

We are at an extraordinary moment, with a historic opportunity to confront one of the world's most serious challenges. Our nation's actions now will be remembered by this generation and all those to follow – in our own nation and others around the world.

We ask that Hawaii's leaders send this important message to Congress. Please forward these important resolutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.